

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1889.

London office of TRE SER, Hotel Victoria, Northum-berland avenue. Address Assura Balanara sole repre-sentative in London.

Advertisements for THE WEEKLY SUN, neved to-morrow morning, must be handed in this evening before mx o'clock

#### Four Years, Six, or Eight?

An esteemed reader of THE SUN, Mr. JAMES A. STORER of Richfield Springs, asks us to print some reasons in favor of a single Presidential term of six years

For the argument in favor of the single term restriction we cannot do better than to refer Mr. STORER to Mr. CLEVELAND'S letter secepting the Democratic nomination in 1884 wherein he stated "certain well-known truths" which seemed to him at that time to be "absolutely vital to the safety and welfare of the nation." We quote Mr. CLEVE-LAND on the subject of a single term :

"When an election to office shall be the selection b the voters of one of their number to assume for a time a public trust instead of his dedication to the profession of politics; when the holders of the ballot quickened b) a sense of duty, shall avenge truth betrayed and pledges broken, and when the suffrage shall be alto-cether free and uncorrupted, the full realization of a government by the people will be at hand. And of the means to this end not one would, in my judgment, be more effective than an amendment to the Constitution disqualifying the President from restection. When we consider the patronage of this great office, the allurements of power, the temptation to retain public place once gained, and, more than all, the availability a party finds in an incumbent whom a borde of officeholders. finds in an incumbent whom a borde of officeholders with a real born of benefits received and fostered by the hope of favors yet to come, stant ready to aid with oney and trained political service, we recognize in the dribility of the President for reciection a most serious action which must characterize a government by the people."

That view of the matter has often been presented, but perhaps never more forcibly than by Mr. CLEVELAND at the time of his first nomination.

The arguments for extending the time to six years in case the President is disqualified for reflection are, first, the alleged evils of Presidential campaigns occurring as often as every fourth year; and, secondly, the assumption that if a President's usefulness were not disturbed by the ambition to be reelected, it would be a good thing to keep him in office longer than four years, in order that the country might have the benefit of his constantly increasing experience. If Mr. STORER wants to know what we

think about it ourselves, we can tell him in a very few words.

No change is needed. Four yours is a long enough term for a corrupt or inefficient Administration; eight years short enough for a good President. The people ought to have the opportunity to pronounce on the character of the Administration as often as once in four years. We take no stock in the argument that frequent elections are a national evil. It is an excellent and a necessary thing that American citizens should be stirred up as often as they are now to a lively interest in the political issues of the time, and to a renewed sense of the blessings of free government. Suggestions to the contrary are for the most part inspired by mercenary considerations or by the unpatriotic and un-American sentiment that there is something vulgar in the exercise of the highest functions of citizenship.

The plan that has worked well for one hundred years will answer for another.

# What Does Le Caron's Evidence Amount

If the London Times could have proved the letters ostensibly incriminating Mr. PAR-NELL to be genuine, it would undoubtedly have done so months ago, and thus saved itself the outlay of a great deal of money Conscious or fearful of inability to bring the letters home to their imputed author, it naturally fell back on an attempt to show that whether or no particular letters were written by Mr. PARNELL, they at all events

expressed his secret sympathies and wishes. In fulfilment of this purpose Attorney-General WEBSTER and his colleague, Sir HENRY JAMES, have raked over the recent history of Ireland, have loaded the record of the years, and have tried to connect the lawbreakers directly or indirectly with the organizers of the Land League and the leaders of the Nationalist party in Parliament. Up to last week it was generally conceded that the attempt had failed; indeed, BEACH, alias LE CARON, the extraordinary witness who at last came to the rescue, declared upon the stand that he thought the case was going against the Times, and accordingly deemed It his duty to testify at the risk of exposing himself to the usual fate of informers. Not only did he turn out the most effective witness yet produced, but he should rather be described as the only witness thus far called for the Times whose testimony is likely to produce any appreciable effect upon the English public mind. It is the more important to carefully sift LE CARON's evidence and flx its bearing on the real point at issue, whether, namely, Mr. PARNELL and the advocates of peaceful, constitutional agitation have been all along in collusion with assas sins and dynamiters, or whether their counsels and methods have not powerfully tended to discourage and supersede the resort to violence and crime.

According to his own story, this man BEACH, alias LE CARON, has been for a quarter of a century a professional spy and informer employed by the British Government to discover and betray the plans of the Irish revolutionary societies which have headquarters in the United States. We do not question the truth of this edifying confession, nor, in view of the apparent fulness of his acquaintance with the secrets of the Fenian and Clan-na-Gael associations, do we doubt that he earned his pay. Were it simply the aim of the Times to demonstrate before the PARNELL Commission the existence in the United States of widespread and energetic Irish-American organizations whose object at one time was the forcible separation of Ireland from Great Britain, the evidence of Le Caron might have helped materially to prove its case.

But testimony to this effect was entirely superfluous. Everybody knows that up the formation of the Land League in 1879 all the Irish-American societies organized for the purpose of relieving the sufferings of their mother country were revolutionary in their designs and methods. The bitter experience of three-quarters of a century had not taught them to hope for any substantial result from constitutional agitation, and it was only slowly and reluctantly that they acquiesced in the new programme of which Mr. PARNELL and Mr. DAVITT were carnest advocates. Yet, from the nature of the case, if the Land League and the PAR-NELL Parliamentary party were to find any sympathizers and supporters in the United States they had to look for them among the Irish-American revolutionists, and to begin by persuading these men to give up or at | trip to Europe. People continued to die and all events suspend their own projects until

at Westminster. In other words, the mass of Irish-Americans had to be converted to constitutional processes of agitation be fore measures could be taken to convert the British Liberals to home rule. You cannot convert people if you hold aloof from them. Had Mr. PARNELL and the other champions of the new programme refused during their visits to America to hold any communication

with men connected with revolutionary societies, not only would they have failed to obtain from Irish-Americans any endorse ment of their own plans, but they would scarcely have been able to organize a single public meeting. That without American

support it would have been impracticable for the Parnellites to capture five-sixths of Ireland's seats in the House of Commons is admitted on all hands. It is no less evident that to insist on Mr. PARNELL's procuring the requisite assistance, while at the same time turning his back upon the Irish-American revolutionists, would be tantamount to asking him to make bricks without straw.

It is one of Mr. PARNELL's most remarkable achievements that he succeeded in convincing the great majority of Irish-Americans that, as a matter of sound policy and common sense, it was better to abandon, for a time at least, the endeavor to free Ireland by revolution or by dynamite, and to substitute a lawful, peaceful, honorable method of asserting Ireland's rights. So far as the evidence of LE CARON touches Mr. PARNELL at all, it exhibits him engaged in that work of conversion which is his highest honor. Nor would the testimony of a hundred professional informers counterweigh the intrinsic improbability that Mr. PARNELL would secretly connive at outrages, whose perpetration would inevitably and notoriously tend to defer for years, perhaps forever, the triumph of the movement upon which he has staked his life. In their anxiety to prove Mr. PARNELL a knave, which few even of his enemies will credit, the Times and its swift witnesses should beware of the blunder of proving him a fool, which nobody on earth could be persuaded to believe.

#### Very Well As It Is.

The report which the Surrogate of this county has composed respecting the transactions of his office for the year 1888, is a document of volume and elaboration, and it seems to have produced its effect upon the Legislature. We learn that several bills have already been proposed, and that several others have been framed, enlarging the official powers of the Surrogate, lengthening his term of office, increasing his salary, and generally magnifying his importance and his emoluments. Yet things are very well as they are.

However, the figures in this official report are certainly imposing, and the labors, which it presents under fifty different headings, wear all the appearance of magnitude and moment. Let us reproduce a few of them :

Certificates issued.
Administration pelitions prepared.
Executors oaths prepared.
Searches made
Oaths administered.
Testimony taken, folios.
Record room handled for lawyers (bundles of passes). Certificates issued. 1,208 1,941 2,800 2,800 12,625 40,246 50,000 Polos recorded.....

These figures, and others that go with them, unquestionably indicate the transaction of a large amount of business; but when they are carefully examined, they do not justify the portrait of a much overworked officer, performing judicial tasks almost beyond mortal power, and entitled to rewards much exceeding the present.

But, that we may do no wrong to these aspirations, let us quote thees sential portion of the argument put forth in the report:

"To properly appreciate what was accomplished by the Surrogate in 1884 it would be necessary to detail the multifarious steps which enter into the composition of the enormous work comprised in the foregoing statement. This cannot be done in brief, but attention will be called to a few of the items to show how busy the Surrogate must necessarily be. For instauce, taking the aggregate of written decisions, orders, and decrees on the basis of three hundred work ing days in the year, he must sign his name on an aver age nearly fifty times daily. He must examine and pass pon at least three hundred folios of orders and decrees such as petitions, affidavits pro and con, &c., and the law applicable thereto, and see that all the parties affected thereby are before the court. These parties anected inergy are velors the court. These orders fand decrees must be carefully scrutinized as to matter and form, and at least one-half of them, found defective, are returned to counsel for correction, when Commission with harrowing descriptions of all the outrages committed in the last ten ted or denied probate and the validity of its exthey must be reexamined before signature. He m ecution, and to that end he must inquire particularly into all the facts and circumstances relating thereto-nearly five wills a day being admitted; and, where they are contested, he must take and consider over one hundred and thirty folios of testimony a day, He must bear the arguments of the counsel, take and consider their briefs, examine the law, and write three decisions daily. He must likewise hear and dispose of orally from the bench at least ten special motions a day. He must examine the bills of costs and affidavits, and fix the costs, allowances, and dishursome of executors, administrators, and guardians, contest-ants, special guardians, and referces in a large number of cases daily, and fix the commissions of executors administrators, and general guardians. The fixing of costs, allowances, and disbursements is a very labori-ous, wearisome, and unpleasant duty. Allowances are discretionary with the Surrogate, within the statutory limits, and that discretion can only be exercised in rela tion to certain services specified by statute. In the great majority of cases the statutory fee is entirely nudequate to the services rendered by counsel but the 'ourt can give no relief, however deserving or meritorious the case may be, above what the statute permits it in its discretion to allow. Attorneys' affidavits and bills of costs are very seldom confinel to the services for which the Surrogate can make an allowance. Hence the necessity of requiring attorneys to specify in detail the particular services and the time oc-cupied in their rendition, so that the Court may judge whether they are within the statute, and what would be a reasonable allowance therefor. This is specially burensome to the Judge, and in most cases very unsatis-actory to counsel. Resides all this the Surrogate personally dictates the correspondence of the office, and his doorfis open at all times to attorneys and others having business in his court."

> This description of an overwhelmed county officer, staggering under a load of cares, and burdened with duties which seem to put human endurance to the test, is well calculated to touch the sympathetic heart of the ordinary legislator and to move even a taxpayer to sentiments of deep contrition. But the truth is not always expressed in language of glowing pathos; and this is just as evident regarding Mr. Ransom's appeal, as regarding any other rhetorical composition.

What is grandiloquently described in the Surrogate's report as the preparation of papers, petitions, and certificates is the filling out by clerks of printed blanks; and the folios requiring so great an expenditure of time and strength are simply copies of wills which have been filed. Indeed, the majority of the work in the Surrogate's office is merely clerical, and is performed by twelve copylsts, who, with thirty-one clerks, make up the staff of the office, which costs the city some \$80,000 a year in salaries. As a matter of fact, out of 1,375 wills offered for probate last year ninetenths of them were duly admitted without contest, and but seven were actually re-

jected during that period. The Surrogate is unquestionably an important officer in our judicial system, but he is not absolutely indispensable to the public welfare. A couple of years ago the Hon. DANIEL G. ROLLINS, who was then Surrogate, and a most able, distinguished, and conscientious magistrate, found occasion to take a well-earned holiday, which included a others to inherit during his absence; yet one more effort had been made to obtain | there was no unduc excitement. The Judges |

redress and justice from the Parliament | of the Court of Common Pleas, whose jurisdiction is coordinate, performed quite acceptably the functions of the office.

The Surrogate receives a salary of \$12,000, has a considerable volume of patronage, and holds office for six years. There is no good reason why his salary should be increased, his powers amplified, or his term extended. It is very well as it is.

### Vermont Asks for Agricultural Protec-

tion. Too late to get legislatively into the Senate Tariff bill, the farmers and stock raisers of Chittenden county, Vermont, members of both the great political parties, recently petitioned Congress for more effectual protection of American agriculture against foreign, and particularly Canadian, competition, Their plea is in behalf of the farmers of all the United States, who, they say, rallied in the last Presidential election manning the political earthworks and rifle pits and successfully defending the home market against domestic and foreign assault.

In behalf of the agricultural interest, these Vermonters claim that the farmers of the United States are abundantly able to produce all the food and materials for textile fabrics consumed by their countrymen; that the independence of the nation and its economical well being make it the preëminent duty of Congress to thoroughly protect American agriculture against both the frauds and the encroachments of speculative foreign importers of the products of foreign soil. They declare that the protection given to them by the tariff of 1883 has been inadequate by reason of the great difference in farm wages here and abroad; by reason of the insufficiency of the duties or farm products imposed by that tariff, and the numerous gaps therein from oversight in its framing, from errors in revision, and from hostile interpretation by the Treasury Department. In carnest words, that will doubtless have echo in the next Congress, they declare that important farm products are undersold in many of our cities by the products of foreign labor; that onlons from Spain and Egypt are emptied by the cargo into our markets as far west as Chicago; that tobacco raised by coolies in Sumatra, and imported fraudulently, lessens the due rewards of American tobacco farming; that wool clipped by slaves, by convicts, and by human creatures scarcely less degraded, from sheep herded without cost on untaxed land, in perpetual summer, in flocks of tens of thousands, absolutely kills wool growing by American farmers, and sends their sheep to the slaughter by millions; that potatoes and cabbages in great cargoes from foreign fields worked by women and children come here as ballast in British tramp steamers, as also come by ship loads limed eggs from Holland, cattle from Mexico, and barley from Canada. Against the extensive fraudulent importation of horses and cattle, on the lying pretence that they are for "breeding purposes" only, these farmers angrily ask effective protection.

And otherwise specifically, they demand a duty of 20 cents a bushel on barley, a proportional increase of duty on malt, 25 cents a bushel on potatoes and onlons, two dollars a hundred on cabbages, three dollars a ton on hay, 10 cents a pound on hops, 20 per cent. on beans and peas, 5 cents a dozen on eggs, 30 per cent. on fowls and poultry, 30 per cent. on vegetables in their natural state or in salt or brine. They also demand such an increase of duties on imported flax and linen goods as will effectively encourage in this country the growth and preparation of

flax fibre and the manufacture of linen. In separate paragraphs these Vermont farmers demand the restoration of the protection given to American wool growing by the tariff of 1867, with stringent amendment to meet the more recent forms of foreign competition, undervaluation, and tricky evasion; also to repeal all the internal taxes on tobacco, and to prevent imports of foreign leaf tobacco suitable for wrappers, at any duty imposed on other leaf tobacco.

If these Vermont agriculturists after the feeling of their fellows throughout the United States, it is manifest that, if they could have their way, the importation by great ship loads of Egyptian onions and Dutch cabbages would come to an end in

the year 1889.

The Same Old Republican Game. That amusing little annex of the Republican party, the Anti-Saloon League, held a State convention at Albany last week, and besides favoring ballot reform, the connection of which with opposition to saloons is not apparent, passed resolutions against the Excise bill of the Excise Commission.

Among the honorary Vice-Presidents of the Anti-Saloon League is Dr. WARNER MILLER. candidate for a seat in Gen. HARRISON'S Cabinet on account of services rendered in 1888 as a temperance candidate for Governor

We are not particularly concerned to defend the measure proposed by the Excise Commission. It is notorious that the Commissioners themselves were not satisfied with it, that some of them were only with great difficulty induced to sign it, and that it is a compromise bill, the resultant of moderate and radical opinions. But Republican attacks upon it are for the most part dishonest and hypocritical.

The Republican position as to excise legislation was concisely asserted on Thursday by Mr. ALEXANDER S. BACON of Brooklyn, who appeared before the Assembly Committee on Excise in opposition to the bill:

"This bill is so bad that I am afraid that if the Legis lature should pass it Governor Hill would sign it."

In other words, the Republicans are determined not to send in to Governor Hill any Excise bill that does not contain provisions which they know are objectionable to him. "Bad" means "likely to pass." Such was their policy in recent Legislatures. Such, in all probability, will it be in 1889. The temperance element is to be deluded with bills never meant to be passed. The saloon element has the tip, and knows the Republican anxiety for rigid excise legislation is only a bit of excellent fooling.

But Dr. WARNER MILLER can hardly expect to be seriously regarded as a champion of temperance when the temperance he champions is of the foxy Republican kind. And he ought not to be rewarded therefor.

It is fourteen months since the Arab slayers in Central Africa attacked the mission station at Karonga on the northwest shore of Lake Nyassa, and announced their purpose to drive all the whites out of Nyassaland. The cable tells us that the white men and their na tive allies commanded by Capt, Lugano still hold Karonga against the enemy, who are in possession of a large territory north of Nyassa. Capt. LUGARD must thoroughly believe in the saying. "It is the unexpected which always happens in Africa." He is a British army offi-cer who went to Africa on a leave of absence. o wander for his own pleasure among the sighlands, rich in game, at the south end of Nrassa. When the news was brought down the lake that the Arabs had attacked the white station at its north end, he was asked to take command of the relief expedition. Convinced that fighting was necessary he consented to do so, and there he has been confronting the Arabs ever since, a wholly unlooked-for outcome of his pleasure trip. It is a curious fact that while this mere visitor to Africa is still

able to direct all the movements of the defence all but six of the white men who accompanied him have been compelled by the unhealthful climate to return to the Shire highlands.

prospects for the fund that is being raised here in behalf of the Confederate Soldiers' Home in Texas. The energetic Major Joe STEWART, who has come to the city as the agent of the Home. has been successful in securing the cooperation of many of the officers and soldiers who served in the Union armies, and who are now ready to show their sympathy with the disabled and needy veterans of the vanquished Confederacy. It was an excellent thing for him to secure the services of our popular fellow citizen, Chaun-CEY M. DEPEW, as treasurer of the fund, and to obtain the aid of a committee like that which has taken the business in charge. There can be no doubt that, under such auspices, the modest amount that is asked for will be proand we trust that, by the end of the month, Major STEWART will be able to announce the completion of his work in New York.

Three weeks hence GROVER CLEVELAND then ex-President of the United States, will be a private citizen of the great and gloricus Empire State, of which DAVID BENNETT HILL IS the Governor.

It is gratifying to see by the recent demonstrations in London, Manchester, Liverpool and Glasgow, that a vast body of British subjects outside of Ireland are taking a serious interest in the Irish question and entering their protest against the nefarious policy enforced by Balroun. There is no hope for Ireland until the British people are aroused to a sense of her wrongs. It is they who are responsible for them by upholding the Government that perpetrates them. They can at any time bring about the changes that are needed for the pacification of Ireland. The English papers publish reports of Balloun's misdeeds. and the English people read those reports. It must be that they will bestir themselves to remove the disgrace from their country, and we welcome the recent signs of promise.

Even in his second term of office as Governor of New York, and at a mature period of his life, Governor HILL continues to be a buchelor, without explaining the fact to the sex among whom he has so many admirers.

The revivalists who are operating in the rough places of Knott county, Kentucky, as deeribed by the despatch in yesterday's Sun. and who are turning the brawlers and mur derers out there into men of peace, must be credited with practical work of the very highest importance. Some of the transformations brought about by the preaching of these bold backwoods revivalists deserve to be compared with the case of St. Paul, who was converted at the very time in which he was "yet breath ing out threatenings and slaughter. be well for Brothers Hypen and McChung to prosecute their campaign in every county of old Kentucky.

Sir JOHN MACDONALD is desirous of testing the strength of the annexation sentiment in the provinces of the new Dominion, and there is a prospect of a general election with that idea in view. We agree with the Conservative leader that the test ought to be made. The annexationists, who are not very bold, are apprehensive of the result, but there are strong reasons why the facts of the case should be ascertained by a popular vote. If a majority or a minority of the people of the provinces are in favor of annexation to the United States, under a republican Government, the fact ought to be

Brother Harrison, the revivalist now operating in this city, confesses that he is well paid for his enthusiastic work against Satan My terms are \$100 a week and expenses." he said to a reporter of THE SUN at the close of his sermon of last Sunday afternoon. We presume that this is the highest price ever paid to any revivalist, from WHITFIELD to Moody, but Brother Harrison insists that his services are worth the money, and that the churches by which he is employed grow richer even while disbursing it. Yet we still think that he might properly reduce his terms for revival work in a city as wicked as New York is.

Average Egyptians and the residents of the Isthmus of Panama look at isthmus canals from very different standpoints. The people at Panama believe the great Dr. Lyssers ditch will add boundlessly to their prosperity if it is ever completed, and the troubles of the late say it not only cost the lives of many hundreds of their people during the excavations, but it also helped to bankrupt the country by the debt it imposed, and diverted from their railroads thousands of tons of freight. Their great griovance is that while property worth millions passes through their country in the canal, not a penny of it helps to enrich the land, and they think the canal has been a curse instead of a blessing to Egypt.

There will be other hearts that will ache if the Panama project proves a dismal failure, for not a few islands in the Pacific, including such little specks as Easter Island, have been pluming themselves mightly over the prospect that they were to be way stations along the great route of the future to Australia.

### MILLIONS IN ART.

The City's Treasures in the Metropolitan Museum-President Johnston Resigns. The members of the corporation of the Metropolitan Museum of Art held their annual meeting at the museum vesterday afternoon. Frederick W. Rhinelander presided. John Taylor Johnston, who has been President of the museum since its foundation, resigned owing to growing infirmities of age, and he was elected honorary President for life. These officers were elected: President, Henry G. Marquand: First Vice-President, William C. Prime; Second Vice-President, Daniel Huntngton; Treasurer, Salem H. Wales; Secretary, Louis P. Di Cesnola; Trustees to serve six years, D. O. Mills, J. Pierpont Morgan, and Robert W. De Forest.

The report of the trustees shows that the toal property of the institution, as estimated up to Jan. 1, 1889, is \$2,252,705.73. This does not include the valuable collections recently doinclude the valuable collections recently do-nated by Mrs. Lucy W. Draxol and Mr. Henry G. Marquand, which would swell the total amount to more than \$3.000,000. The receipts for the year 1888, including the bequest of Catharine L. Wolfe, were \$268,835.12, and the disbursements \$67.049. The total amount of invested funds, including the Catharine L. Wolfe fund, is \$448,200. It was announced that, owing to the veto by Mayor Grant of the measure to provide imme-diately for lighting the museum without the customary process of advertising the contract, nothing could be done at present about open-ing the museum on Wedhesday and Saturday evenings, and it will probably be May or June before the museum is lighted at night.

### A Herd of Buffalo in Wyoming.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11 .- According to reorts received here, a herd of native American ouffalo have escaped the advancing march of civilization and are roaming the wilds of Wyoming. It has been generally believed that the buffalo in their free state had practically become extinct, except in the Yellowstone Park, where the national Government has taken steps for their preservation, but Delegate Carey received a letter a few days ago from Mr. Frank E. Coffin of Wyoming, saying that a herd of twenty-six buffalo have been found browsing in the Hed Desert. Wyoming, and that the Indians were preparing to slaughter them. At Mr. Carey's request the Indian Bursan issued orders which it is hoped, will save the animals. The game laws of Wyoming are adeauate to project the animals from the whites, but the Territorial laws do not extend over the Indians.

Mr. Carey says that it is possible there may be a few other herds of buffalo roaming over the Western country, away from all human habitations. Each spring the cowboys kill a few buils who come out of the brush, but it is very unusual to hear of so many of the animals being discovered in one place. taken steps for their preservation, but Dele-

THE SIMS-EDISON TORPEDO.

Year's Contest Over Coast Defences. WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.-The Senate has returned the Fortifications bill to the House with We are happy to say that there are the best various amendments, of which the chief is a large addition "for the purchase of movable submarine torpedoes, propelled and controlled at will by power transmitted from shore staserted in the bill by the Senate, as an amendment made by its committee, a provision for precisely the same purpose had been rejected by the House in another appropriation bill. This accordingly looks like the material from which a deadlock is made. It is true that the

Senate item called only for \$200,000, while the House item was one of \$500,000. It is also to be noted that while the former is in the Fortifientions bill, where it is unquestionably not out of place, the latter had been proposed for the Army Appropriation bill, and was ruled out there on a point of order. It had, in fact, started afresh the old quarrel over jurisdiction between the Military and Appropriation Committee, the latter claiming control of everything that belongs to the Fortifications bill and to const defence.

But the House debate shows that something more than punctilio or jurisdiction is involved in the question. Mr. Randall assailed the proposal on its merits. The item as offered in the House read as follows:

House rend as follows:

For the purchase, under direction and at the option of the Secretary of War, of movable, submarine torpodoes, propelled and controlled at will by power transmitted from sloves stations, such torpodoes to have a speed of not less than three miles an hour on a one-and a half-mile test to carry 11,000 feet of cable, to steer to the right or of the carry 11,000 feet of cable, to steer to the right or of the carry 10,000 feet of cable, to steer to the right or of the carry 10,000 feet of cable, to steer to the right of the fine of the carry 10,000 feet of the carry 10,00

It was evident from the description that the Sins-Edison terredo was the one meant, and the debate assumed this to be the fact. Mr. liandall submitted a letter written less than a fortnight ago by Gen. Thomas Lincoin Casey, Chief of Engineers of the army, in which he gave this decided opinion:

I do not regard the expenditure at this time of \$500,000 for movable torpedoes as advisable, because.

First—it is not understood that the movable torpedo has been perfected.

Second—We have ten of such torpedoes on hand in an imperfect condition. mperfect condition.
Third—All our means should be devoted to accumulatng whatever may be necessary for the obstruction of
our channels by submarine mines.

our channes by submarine unnes.

Mr. Spinola retorted by citing opinions from other distinguished officers of the Engineer Corps. "I have before me," he said, "copies of letters written by Gen. Abbot, answering every feature of objection that Gen. Casey has urged against the availability of the Sims-Edison movable.controllable toroedoos," These letters and others from Gen. Tower and Gen. Newton, he caused to be read to the House. Gen. Tower's letter was written by him in 1882, in his capacity as President of the Board of Engineers, and it gave this strong recommendation: endation

The results of this investigation have been to convince the Board that this torpedo should form a part of our sys-tem of harbor defence. \* The Board recommends that this proposition of Mr. Sims be accepted.

tem of harter defence. \* \* The Board recommends that this proposition of Mr. Sims be accented.

The letter of Gen. Newton was written a short time afterward, and also in his capacity as Fresident of the Board of Engineers, on harbor defence, and it declared that "fish torpedoes form a recognized part of our system of defence, and in the present incomplete condition of our batterless and a total lack of heavy rifled ordnance, their importance for us is greatly enhanced." The letters of Gen. Abott describe the particular results effected by trials of the Sims torpedo made under his supervision. Gen. McClellan was also cited by Mr. Stendla as writing that he was "strongly impressed by the conviction that the Sims is the best of the movable torpedoes yet invented." It is therefore obvious why this disagreement of the engineer experts should have furnished It is therefore obvious why this disagreement of the engineer experts should have furnished a ground for the present conflict in Congress. On the one hand, its advocates insist that they have strong testimony to the efficiency of the movable torpeds, operated from the shore, given even at a time when it was much less efficient than now. On the other hand, its opponents urge that the opinion of the present head of the Engineer Corps, that an appropriation for it would be premuture, ought to have weight with prudent legislators.

### INTERESTING GOSSIP OF THE DAY.

It is the opinion of a number of the visitors to the parors of the Hon. Thomas Collier Platt and Mrs. Platt in the Fifth Avenue since Cabinet making began that the wife of the man from Tioga was born to be a Cabinet lady. It is the frequent statement that Mrs. Platt has the natural graciousness and charmingly dignified bear ing so essential to success in the highest political aris-tocracy of Washington. Mrs. Platt is of somewhat com-manding figure, and has an interestingly frank and open countenance, big blue eyes, and silver hair which she wears in a plait or crown atop of the head. She has a rich voice, well modulated. On most evenings of the week, scated around the pariors on couches or sunk own in big veivet chairs are her husband's friends, olitical and otherwise, and occasionally Mrs. Platsented at a tiny table in the centre, nonchalantly puts aside the book she is reading and joins in the conversation. "She is a woman to make a man rich first and ambitious afterward for a place in fame's edition de lines," said a visitor to the pariors the other evening when discussing in the corridors the attributes of some of the wives of famous men.

Miss Ethel Arnold, the sister of Mrs. Humphrey Ward, canal company have been a source of great the author of "Robert Eigenere," is here on a visit to anxiety to all dwellers on the Isthmus. The Egyptians believe, however, that the Suez considerably lionized by the 402 as well assemelesser social lights, so to speak is tall, brunette, and decidedly imposing. The society dudes who dames away their lives season after season and it difficult to sustain a tête a tête with the handsome nince of the late apostle of sweetness and light. Though young, Miss Arnold has been a rendy contrito periodical literature, and her productions have got into print in the Nineteenth Century, Harper's Magazine. and other publications of the kind. When at home Miss Arnold teaches school at Oxford, an occupation she was recently obliged to give up in consequence of failing health. She is very proud of her sister's fame and exhibits to her friends copies of the successive editions of 'Robert Elsmere," nine in all, which she ranks among her dearest possessions. Many German Americans in the city suggest that Mad-

on Square Garden should be remodelled after the plan of the Crystal Parace in Leipsic, Germany. The Crystal Palace is the largest and most popular pince of enter-tainment in Saxony. It consists of three large two story buildings which border on three sides of a big summer garden. Military concerts are given in this garden during the summer before cosmogolitan crowds, which drink beer at tables under the trees or explore the arti-ficial grottees on the open side of the area. The buildings around the garden contain three big halls on the ground floor. One of these halls is devoted in winter to concerts, another to variety shows, the third to bowl-ing, shooting, and other like amusements. The second story contains several large dance halls, which are let for bails and dinner parties. On the second floor of the main building is a small theatre, with a well-equipped stage and a seating cepacity of 700 or 830. Another big hall, with two galleries is reserved for shows, like in door circus performances, which require a great deal of room. In summer two concerts are frequently given on the same evening at the Crystal Palace. In winter a concert and a variety entertainment take place ther nightly. During the big fairs, which bring crowds o strangers from all parts of the world to Leipsic three times every year, three or four entertainments draw tremendous crowds to the Crystal Palaco every after soon and evening. The whole concern is it profitable for its owners, although the prices of admission to the best entertainments there average only about O cents, and tickets to the military concerts cost but 10 or 12 cents. The German-Americans who advocate the establishment of a Crystal Palace on the site of Madison Square Garden think the concern would pay good dividends if the prices were fixed about 50 p cent. higher than those of the Crystal Palace in Leipsi

#### An Interesting Contrast. From the Cincinnati Commercial Gatette.

WASHINGTON, Fob. 8. One of the Indies resmes was dressed in plain black, with no appearance of white except a narrow rim of linen at her throat and wrists. Her gown was almost perfectly plain. Her hair was brushed smoothly back and knotted upon ber neck. There was not a particle of jewelry or ornamen tation visible. In manner as unaffected as she was pla

in attire, she was a charming hostess.

In another beautiful home one of the ladies receiving wore a superb gown, as costly and as sumptuous a custume as ever an Empress owned, and her jewels wer worth the ransom of a king. In her hair, at her thr. upon her hands, and pendant from her ears blazed such previous stones as seldom see their rivals in the demo-cratic homes of America or royal courts abroad. Not only there, but even into the folds and trimming of the bodice and skirt the sparkling jewels went, and the stately lady made light the dimness of the great par lors as she moved about in graceful entertainment o her guesta.

The first lady was the daughter of a Senator from a Atlantic coast State: the second the wife of a Schator from a Pacific coast State. Orient and Occident-with the old ideas of the two reversed.

#### That Canadian Tries in Valu. From the Warkington Pos-

A Canadian tries to rake THE SUN over the A Canadian times to rake 11th and over the coals for using the word bursted. The effert will prove fettile. "Bursted" is a good word, but not as good as "busted." which is a definite part of our coice theorem dialect. The Britishers can conquer neither the United States nor its musical tongue.

GOING TO LIVE IN NEW YORK. It Has Become a Bone of Contention in This The Expected Arrival of Mr. and Mrs.

TRANSPORTER OF THE PROPERTY OF

From the Hartford Times

The Expected Arrival of Mr. and Mrs. Cleveland.

From the Hardward Times.

New York, Feb. 7.—When President Cleveland next comes to New York he will come to stay. The law firm of Bangs. Stetzen, Tracy & MacVeagh has a large business, and Mr. Cleveland will find plenty of work in it to keep him from growing lazy. It is understood that his place in the firm will be that of counsel, and I am told that it ought to yield him at least \$39,000 a year, and possibly \$40,000.

There is no likelihood that when he once settles down in New York he will ever want to make another change. He likes the big town, and his wife likes it, and in all probability it will be their bornament home after March 4. For a while, at least, they will live in the neighborhood of Madison square, which, by the war, is now much more convenient than fashionable, a very great change having taken place thereabout since the day of Miss Flora MacFlimsy.

As Mr. Cleveland likes a lively walk now and then, he will have a good one straight down Broadway from that point to Wall street—say two and a half miles, though it is something over. It is one of the most interesting walks in the world, as well as being good for the digestion, and if Mr. Cleveland is really fond of walking, as an accomplished Washington scribe says he is, he ought to enjoy it. The Madison square neighborhood will be especially convenient for Mrs. Cleveland when she wants to visit the great stores, as nearly all of these are close by. It is chelly on account of its convenience in this respect that Col. Daniel Lamon has preferred it each time he has made a flying trip from Washington to do a little shopping. Daniel is also to become a New Yorker, but as he probably won't have near so much shopping to do after March 4, he may possibly pitch upon some other quarter for a residence.

Mr. and Mrs. Cleveland won't take up house, keeping in regular style for some months, any way. Their intention is understood to be to live in a hotel or a suitable flat through the spring, then go out of town

of course make a place for her on his glit-edged list.

There is plenty of room in New York for Mr. Cleveland, and for as many more eminent men as may see fit to join the metropolitan ranks. You often hear what a terribly crowded place it is, but the crowding is all in the lower stories. It seems to be in the natural order of things that the President should fall in with the procession of prominent men that marches toward the metropolis. Every part of the country contributes to it. New England still has a large stock of brains at home, but it has sent a great deal to New York, too. There is not one of the New England States but has many representatives in business and the professions here, and most of them are well up toward the top. The South has also contributed largely, especially since the war, and most of the Southrons with the right vim in them who have settled in New York have done pretty well. Men from the middle section, men from the West, men from the far Pacific slope, and even men from Canada, who have made money and want the enjoyment of life pack up and start for New York in large numbers, and invariably remain when once settled down.

But there is one thing in particular that all New Yorkers who have made a mark elsewhere, whether by their money or their brains, soon find out. It is the certainty of individual shrinkage. The most eminent man in the country might walk down Broadway from Madison square to Wall street and not be once recognized, or, if recognized, not get more than a passing notice. Probably no American was better known than Gen, Grant, yet on many eccasions when I saw Gen, Grant, et on many eccasions when I saw Gen, Grant out of doors it did not seem as if any one else had ever heard of him. Mr. Cloveland may expect similar indifference from the public when he takes up his abode amoun us. The majority won't notice him at all and those who notice him won't go out of their way to show it. There is plenty of room in New York for Mr.

#### Mrs. Benjamin Harrison's New Gowns. From the Kansas City Times.

From the Kansas City Times.

The dress which will probably be worn at the inauguration is of pearl-white brocade, made with a long train, the front being of almost solid gold embroidery. The corsago orens a little at the threat and shows a full ruche of real old point lace. The sleeves reach the elbow. A wide sash of heavy silk is passed around the waist and knotted loosely on the left side, falling to the bottom of the skirt, where it ends in broad gold fringe.

A magnificent French recention dress is of gray silk, made with demi-train and draped with the finest of marquise lace. A sash of the same lace is passed over the corsage up to the shoulder. This dress is elegant in its simplicity, the materials being of the finest. This, too, is made to open at the throat and has at least a half sleeve.

A Greek dinner dress is a creation at once

is made to open at the throat and has at least a half sleeve.

A Greek dinner dress is a creation at once unique and beautiful. The material is of the heaviest. Nile green moir. It is made with a mederately long train. The corsage is cut square in the neck, but not low, and finished with a Greeian border. The sleeves are of true oriental design and finished in the same way. Around the lower part of the empire waist a heavy cord is passed, knotted carelessly on the side. It falls to the bottom of the skirt, where it ends in heavy tassels. It is presumable that with this dress the hair will be worn in a Grecian coffure, bound about with the traditional floman band.

A beautiful house dress is made of the heaviest armure cloth in black silk and wool. The long, straight overgarment, which is of the most exquisite design and finish, is heavily embreidered in black silk, the outlines of the pattern being traced in gold. This dress is perfectly plain, falling straight to the feet, without a particle of drapery, and opening just a little at the side, to show a panel heavy with hand

tern being traced in gold. This dress is perfectly plain, falling straight to the feet, without
a particle of drapery, and opening just a little
at the side, to show a panel heavy with hand
embroidery. Another house dress is made
with a plain redingote in eigar brown, the material being some heavy Persian fabric in wool.
This garment opens in Iront to show a vest and
petticeat of the color called in France cafe au
lait, which is covered with hand embroidery in
colors. The sleeves of the overgarment nearly
reach the wrist, and are finished in
wide cuffs of dark blue plush. The wide revers
and pocket laps are of the same material. This
slegant costume is finished with immease buttons of smoked pearl. Another costume is of
white, in the more severe Greek style. The
costume falls from the shoulders, plain to the
edge of the short train. It is fitted with plaits
at the back and under the arms is confined at
the waist by embroidered pearl bands. Around
the neck is a Greelan handkerchief, fastened
with a pearl ornament, while the long Greek
sleeves fall from the shoulder straight to the
hem of the skirt, being open all the way upon
one side, undernoath which is a close-fitting
sleeve reaching to the wrist.

### Hopest, if he Did Drink

From the Long Branch Record. It will be remembered that two weeks ago Ezekiel Johnson of Red Bank came to Long Branch to see relatives. Before he reached his visiting place he became unable to navigate, and was taken to the lockup in a wheelbarrow. He had a hearing and was fined, the money being advanced by ex-Judge Morris. On Monday Johnson came to Long Branch, refunded the money to the Judge, and then sought the owner of the wheelbarrow in order to pay him for his hire.

#### The Name of Tilden Is there a name on history's scroll

So good, so pure, so known to fame, So dearly loved in this broad land. As is our poble Tilden's name ! As strong as in the years gone past;

And while Democracy shall stand. His mighty name will always last. A leader fearless, daring, brave le was a man both tried and true, And many a giorious victory From dire defeat, he carried through.

No stancher friend a man could have, No wiser e'er gave counsel sage; His precepts spreading far and wide, Became the wonder of the age. And when he filled positions great.

It is was no idle statesman a dream.

Mark how with earnest, manly real.

A tircless worker for men's rights. He was a man among the masses Protecting all, but not the few Against the thraidom of the classes. And when he spoke before the people. His words were lofty, fearless, grand.

He carried out reform's great scheme.

The echoes of their mighty truth Can still be heard on every hand A noble record, more than fair. He left a name without a stain;

The memories of his statesmanship Still in our daily thoughts remain; A monument of strength and truth, A tower uprising to the sky, A living landmark on the page of time A name not born to die

# A. J. MARTYN, & Harlem Newsboy.

Prof. Bickmore's Lectures to Teachers. The attendance of public school teachers and others at the fectures delivered at the Nuseum of Natural History has been so large that many persons have been unable to obtain even standing room. These lectures are given under the care of the blace superintendent of Public fustraction by Prof. Albert is Bickmore, who has arranged to reject some of the lectures in the course on geography and geology. The revised achedule is as follows.

course on key raphy and kenogy. The Para Mandale is as follows.

Yeb is. The White Mountains. 'seb 23 and March 2. The lakes and tiems of New York.' March 9 and 18, 'The Falls of Niggara.' March 23 and 38, 'The st. Lawrence and the Hagueany.' April 6 and 18, 'The Mississippi Valley and Guif States.' April 20. The Stem and the Leat.' April 27. 'The Flower and the Fraits,' May 8, 'The Forests of America.'

THE SUN'S SCHOOL FOR CARD PLAYERS, A Number of Disputes Disposed of and

Light Thrown upon Dark Points, To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In a game of sancho pedro, 51 points, A stands 40 points, A stands 50 points, A boids high, low, Jack, game, and sancho; B holds pedro. Who wins! Sancho; B holds pedro. Q. S. A. K. Asbury Park, N. J. Taking it for granted that A, with his 13 points, made

the number he bid-whatever that was he wins. It in this instance, could not possibly count until all the points which, in their natural order, preceded his, had

To the Entrop of the Sus-Sir: Will you please decise this bet. Five gentlemen were playing poker. It was a lack jot and the first man opened it. The second man had six cards. Before the draw I claimed it was an added.

J. C. M., New York City. It may or may not have been a misdeal. Whether was or not depends entirely upon a point as to which you have failed to enlighten us. If the player who had six cards made the fact known before he looked at any of his cards, or before raising his hand from the table. it was a misdeal. If he did either, his hand is foul; but all the others can play.

To the there can play.

To the Edward of Tak Sun—Sir. In a game of draw poker A opens a jack pot, it stays. A being it reads the which contained three tens at the same time calling them. It is says good. But as a proceeds to take in the pot it says. Tot on I have a full, and as it we stay the same time calling them. Because the pot it is an about the pot and a two stays. Both parties claimed the pot and a rager was the result. Will you kindly decide to a query was the result. Will you kindly decide to a query.

There is but one safe rule to put at the foundation of poker playing and that is that cards talk and not tongues. Until B's hand has been returned to the pack, t must stand as unrevealed, no matter what he says. B takes the pot.

To THE EDITOR OF THE STR.—Sir.: Would you please in-form me through the columns of your paper how the game of brag is played? G. M., New York city. Sorry: but lack of space and time will not permit us to comply with your request. You can purchase a card nanual containing the rudiments of that game, from hereabouts.

To the Edition of the Sun-Mr: Kindly decide the following: W. K., and L. play a game of euche, 10 points up. W. is 4 points, K. P., and L. 2. L. takes up the trump and is euchred. Who goes out first and what portion of the stakes does he receive, the game being for 51 a corner! W. claims the full amount of atakes our account of being 0 points. Jack, New York city. W. and K. are winners alike. The stakes are to be equally divided between them. In other words, they sach win in reality the sum of haif a dollar. W. was wrong in his claim. He is no more out with his extra point than is K. with his sufficiency of ten. All over and

above the required number of points to put either player, out is superfluous, and does not count. Neither does it in any manner give precedence to the hand of the player obtaining more than the adequate complement. To the Editor of the Sch—Sir: As the Sun shines for all will you kindly decide the following questions for a constant reader? In the game of seven up one man has one to go, and makes low. Another has two to go, and makes high, jack. Which goes out first Again, one man has two to go, and makes high, jack. Which goes out first I contend the man holding high goes out first in all cases, providing he makes points enough besides high to make the necessary seven. C. H. H., New York city.

1. The player making the low wina. 2. Your query is one indenite for a decision to be rendered. It is not

too indefinite for a decision to be rendered. It is only half stated. You fail to tell us how much it was the endeavor to focus a ray or two upon a point of the game as to which you seem to be somewhat in the dark. Briefly, if each has to go one, high, game goes out before low, jack; otherwise not.

low, jack; otherwise not.

To the Euron of The Sun—Nr: In playing euchra, if you cannot follow suit do you have to trump if you do not want to? A claims you must trump or follow suit, and B claims you can throw away if you wish. Who is right?

A COSTANT READER, New York city. B. was right. A player holding no card of the suit led s not compelled to trump, but may play any card he thinks best.

To the Briton of the Sux—Sir: In the card game commonly known as forty dve, diamonds being from it may a heart properly be withheld when acc of hearts is lead, player holding no diamonds?

W. S. D., New York city. Yes. Holding no trump, a player has the privilege of throwing off. Unless so specially agreed, it is not obliga-tory upon him to play a heart.

To the Entron of The Sex-Ser: A. B. C. and D are playing whist. B deals before A develops. D leads. The error is at once apparent. A develops, leading once in the annual series and on the thrul lead of calls the exposed eard of D. Then it is distinct that C cannot so call, and that the capacity of the exposed card to be called or will exact the lead when it becomes the time of either B or D to lead. How is that No NAME, Newark, N. J.

Your idea, as stated, is correct only in part. pended explanation of the disputed point should set you entirely right, and make adjustment of it easy. In the event of n player's leading out of his turn, as in this case, his adversaries may either call the card erroneously led or exposed, or may call the suit from him or his partner when it is next the turn of either of them to lead. This latter penalty, however, must be exacted from whichever of them next first obtains the lead. To be more definite. If a suit is to be called, it must be called at once from the right leader, when the player guilty of the error named is the partner of the person who ought to have led. Otherwise, the only penalty that remains is to call the card erroneously played.

To the Ention of the Sen-Sir. Can the game of euchre be played by more than four persons? Some dictionaries and some other books say "played by two, three, or four." Can you persuade yourself that it will be worth your while to tell me, and many of your reads from other eachre games? The only same which some people call by this name (bid euchre: u, to my thinking, not euchre at all.

11. F. The Conturn New York ofty. 11. F., The Century, New York city.

Yes. Under the name of Napoleon, or bid surfre, as you term it—which is a hybrid development of enchrs proper-six persons may take part in the game. It differs mainly from the regular game in that it is purely a game of bidding, each participant playing for him self. Each player bids the highest number of tricks he thinks he can make. The highest bidder plays first elects otherwise, the first card he leads is recognized to be the trump. A player wins when he declares Napo-leon and succeeds in making all the tricks (five), for each of which he is paid a certain amount respectively by all the others. A player loses when he fails to make whatever number of tricks (generally two or three) he sees fit to declare. Usually, these losses are made ac-cording to tricks. Whenever a player, after the last-named method of bidding, succeeds in securing what he bid, it sometimes hoppens that, by a certain fall of the cards the making of Napoleon is possible. The count for this however, is not so great by half the number of chips as it is for a declaration made at the commencement of play. The latter method, by the way, is not yet fully and clearly defined, and is subject to slight modification by a previous special agreement of the players. Contrary, also, to the regular cucline trumping is computery when suit cannot be followed at the six-handed game. We may add that "Nap" is better known in England and France than in this country.

A variety of Napoleon, widely called six handed euchre, is played by six persons, forming two partner-ships of three on each side, seated alternately. Two of the sevens are discarded from the pack, so that all the remaining thirty cards are deals. The winning side in this game can only claim the exact amount of the but. even if more tricks should be taken in playing out the bands. If the side having the successful bid fails to make the number of tricks bid, their opponents place the same number of tricks to their score. The game is scored as in Napoleon, 25 points usually making game. It differs from Napoleon in that when a bid is made the suit on which the bid is based must be declared, but it is not obligatory to lead such suit. In other respects six-handed cuchre follows closely after the laws of Frenco

Your concluding opinion as to the frivolity and the gality of so twisting the regular game is correct, and one in which you are perfectly justified. While many of the mongrel games continually being put forth may be entertaining among the soveral coteries in which they are respectively recognized, the sense and science in such departures are not and have never been con-ceded by any of the more reputable authorities. All abortions of the game of cuctire, properly played, or any other well-known, established game, send only to per-plex and bring about discord and consequent disputes, which, if the regular game was adhered to, being un-

called for would never arise M. S., Brooklyn. -- No. There may be some such game lu existence, however. The original form of that game, proper, has been so twisted and modified and changed by different coteries, in order to suit the purposes of various whimsical players, that, in many instances, the offshoot, by its peculiar transplanting bears

To sun Entros of The Sun-Sir. Will you please de-cide the following, and charge a reader of your paper; in throwing dice A best B that he (A) will been 1. A throws 1. Who wins? It is a tie.

### No Occasion for Thanks.

From the Washington Cettle On one occasion when Tom Ochiliree re-turned bome from Congress, there was very little fractal upon the railroad, and he was the only person of conse-quence on the train. When it stopped at his rown there was an unusual crowd around the depon, and, naturally enough he thought it had assembled to welcome him, so he stepped out on the platform and became "Gentlemen, I thank you for this hearty demonstra-tion." "John Dills has just committed suicide in the depoi."

## Convincing Evidence.

From America. Binke's Conchman (colored)—I tought you sayed weah folks was so dog gone rich.

Althe's conchinant of cities—so they are yo black divel.

Binke's Conclinant—Hull I guess not. I looked in de rinder has high at som two onder young in look passing the same planny. Guess you all look are concoming.

The Stewart Case Goes Over for a Bay. Judge Smith was not at hand when the Nurrogate's Court convened for the Stewart will care 312 terday, and letters from him were read by user all Kansom and Mr. Devine, setting forth that he was to lit to appear, but might be well enough to day. For case was adjourned.